

CLAIMS

1. A method for presenting a recognised handwritten symbol, comprising the steps of:

- 5 detecting a handwritten pattern that is entered by a user,
 recognising the detected handwritten pattern,
 wherein said step of recognising comprises comparing the
 handwritten pattern to templates representing ways of
10 writing symbols, and returning a best template that
 represents a pattern which, according to a predefined
 rule, is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein
 at least two templates comprise different patterns which
 represent different ways of writing a single symbol, and
15 presenting the pattern of the best template on a
 screen.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the
 pattern of a template is represented by geometrical
20 information relating to the appearance of said pattern.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the
 geometrical information comprises information of
 positions of a number of dots representing the pattern of
25 the template, said pattern being presented by lines drawn
 between the dots.

4. The method according to any one of claims 1-3,
 wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the
30 whole pattern of the best template at once.

5. The method according to claim 3, wherein the step
 of presenting comprises presenting lines one at a time.

- 35 6. The method according to any one of the preceding
 claims, further comprising, before the step of

presenting, manipulating the pattern of the best template according to characteristics of the handwritten pattern.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the step
5 of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling.

8. The method according to any one of the preceding
10 claims, wherein the handwritten pattern is entered on an input area on the screen and the pattern of the best template is presented in a presentation area on the screen, wherein said presentation area is overlapping the input area.

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9. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the step of recognising comprises returning at least one alternative template.

20 10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the pattern of the at least one alternative template at the request of a user.

25 11. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein each template is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by the template.

30 12. The method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the presented template pattern according to which category the template is associated with.

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13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the category is indicated by a certain colour of a background to the presented template pattern .

5 14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the category is indicated by a certain colour of the presented template pattern.

10 15. A method for sequentially presenting a plurality of recognised handwritten symbols, comprising for each handwritten pattern the steps of:

 detecting the handwritten pattern that is entered by a user,

 recognising the detected handwritten pattern,
15 wherein said step of recognising comprises comparing the handwritten pattern to templates representing ways of writing symbols and returning a best interpretation of the handwritten pattern, said best interpretation being based on the pattern of a best template that, according
20 to a predefined rule, is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein at least two templates comprise different patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol, and wherein the patterns of said at least two templates return different best
25 interpretations when being most similar to the handwritten pattern, and

 presenting the best interpretation on a screen.

 16. The method according to claim 15, further
30 comprising, before the step of presenting, retrieving as the best interpretation, from a database comprising allographs, a best allograph that is associated with the pattern of the best template.

35 17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the best

allograph represented by a bitmap image depicting the way of writing the pattern of the best template.

18. The method according to claim 16, wherein the
5 step of presenting comprises presenting the best
allograph represented by a number of arcs depicting the
way of writing the pattern of the best template.

19. The method according to claim 15, wherein the
10 best interpretation is the pattern of a best template,
and wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting
the pattern of the best template on the screen.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein the
15 pattern of a template is represented by geometrical
information relating to the appearance of said pattern.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the
geometrical information comprises information of
20 positions of a number of dots representing the pattern,
said pattern being presented by lines drawn between the
dots.

22. The method according to any one of claims 15-21,
25 wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the
whole pattern represented by the best interpretation at
once.

23. The method according to claim 21, wherein the
30 step of presenting comprises presenting the lines one at
a time.

24. The method according to any one of claims 15-23,
further comprising, before the step of presenting,
35 manipulating the pattern represented by the best
interpretation according to characteristics of the
handwritten pattern.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the step of manipulating is done in consideration of at least one characteristic in the group of translation, rotation, slant and scaling.

26. The method according to any one of claims 15-25, wherein the handwritten pattern is entered on an input area on the screen and the best interpretation is presented in a presentation area on the screen, whereby said presentation area is overlapping the input area.

27. The method according to any one of claims 15-26, wherein the step of recognising comprises returning at least one alternative interpretation.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting the at least one alternative interpretation at the request of a user.

29. The method according to any one of claims 15-28, wherein each interpretation is associated with a category defining what kind of symbol is represented by the interpretation.

30. The method according to any one of claims 15-29, wherein the step of presenting comprises masking the presentation of the presented interpretation according to which category the best interpretation is associated with.

31. The method according to claim 30, wherein the category is indicated by a certain colour of a background to the pattern represented by the presented interpretation.

32. The method according to claim 30, wherein the category is indicated by a certain colour of the pattern represented by the presented interpretation.

5 33. A device for recognition of a handwritten symbol, said device comprising
 a screen,
 means for detecting a handwritten pattern,
 a database comprising templates that comprises
10 patterns representing ways of writing symbols, wherein at least two templates comprising different patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol,
 means for recognising the detected handwritten pattern and returning the pattern of a best template of
15 the handwritten pattern, said best template pattern being most similar to the handwritten pattern,
 wherein said device is arranged to present the pattern of the best template on the screen.

20 34. A device for recognition of a plurality of handwritten symbols, said device comprising
 a screen,
 means for detecting a handwritten pattern,
 a database comprising templates that comprises
25 patterns representing ways of writing symbols, wherein at least two templates comprising different patterns which represent different ways of writing a single symbol,
 means for recognising the detected handwritten patterns and individually returning for each handwritten
30 pattern a best interpretation of the handwritten pattern, said best interpretation being based on the pattern of a best template that is most similar to the handwritten pattern, wherein the patterns of said at least two templates return different best interpretations when
35 being most similar to the handwritten pattern,
 wherein said device is arranged to present the best interpretation on the screen.